

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/017,299**
Response filed April 17, 2006
Reply to OA dated January 17, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 13, 15, 17, and 20. The attached sheets of drawings replace the original sheets including FIGS. 13, 15, 16, 17, and 20.

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REMARKS:

Claims 1-20 are currently being considered, of which claims 10 and 16 have been amended herein.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-9, 11-15, 17, 19, and 20 are allowed.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 16 and 18 would be allowable if an informality is corrected.

Applicant and Applicant's attorney thank Examiner Nguyen Ba for the interview on January 4, 2006. The special attention the Examiner paid to the instant application is noted with appreciation. Items discussed during the interview include: the correction of spelling errors in Figures 13, 15, 17, and 20; the insertion of "data" after "said version" in claim 16, in order to remove an alleged 35 USC 112, second paragraph, issue regarding claims 16 and 18; and the insertion of ", wherein at least one of said first electronic unit and said second electronic unit performs a comparison of the magnitude of the version data of said second electronic unit and the support version data" after "being supported by said second electronic unit" in claim 10 in order to remove an alleged 35 USC 101 issue regarding claim 10.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because of minor informalities. In particular, the Examiner has indicated that Figures 13, 15, 17, and 20 have minor informalities relating to the spelling of various terms. Applicant has attached sheets of drawings with the noted spelling errors removed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to the drawings should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claim 16 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112, as being indefinite relating to a noted antecedent basis issue. Claim 16 has been amended herein in a manner intended to remove the noted antecedent basis issue.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection of claim 16 should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has rejected claim 10 under 35 USC 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Applicant has amended claim 10 in a manner intended to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

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If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time, and any other fees which may be due now or in the future with respect to this application, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Replacement Drawings of FIGS. 13, 15, 16, 17, and 20